

12. (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~38~~<sup>1</sup> which is a  
D1 treatment for autoimmune diseases.

13. (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~38~~<sup>1</sup> which is a  
treatment for viral diseases.

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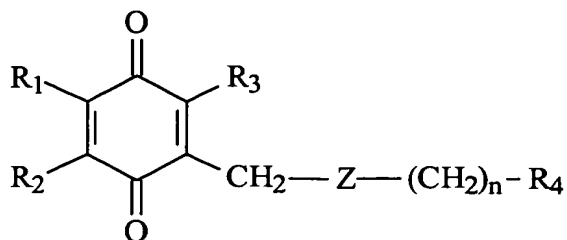
~~25~~ ~~26~~. (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~40~~<sup>15/16</sup> which is a  
treatment for inflammatory diseases.

~~26~~ ~~27~~. (Four Times Amended) ~~The~~<sup>15/16</sup> method according to claim ~~40~~<sup>15/16</sup> which is a  
treatment for autoimmune diseases.

~~27~~ ~~28~~. (Four Times Amended) The method according to claim ~~40~~<sup>15/16</sup> which is a  
treatment for viral diseases.

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~~28~~ ~~29~~ ~~30~~. (Twice Amended) A method for treating diseases caused by the activation  
D3 of NF- $\kappa$ B comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative represented by  
Sub the following general formula (1):  
G1



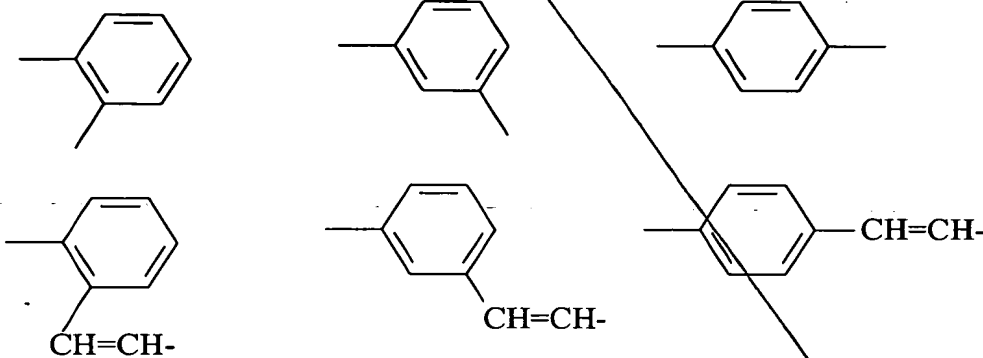
Sub  
C1  
D3

wherein

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

R<sub>4</sub> is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is



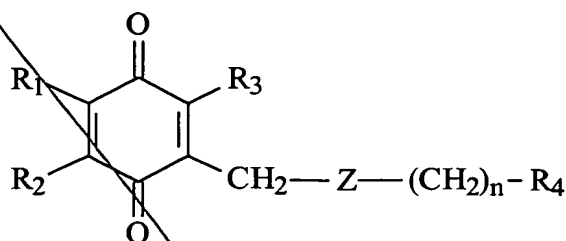
and, n is an integer from 0 to 6,

or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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D

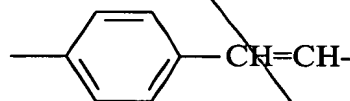
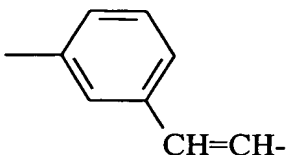
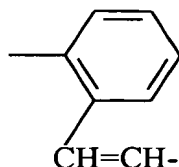
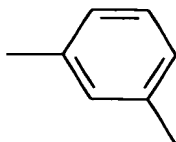
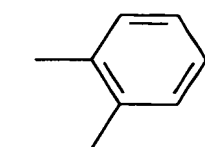
29 ~~30~~  
41. (Twice Amended) A method for treating diseases caused by the excessive  
production of TNF- $\alpha$  comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative  
represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein  $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

$\text{R}_4$  is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is



and,  $n$  is an integer from 0 to 6,

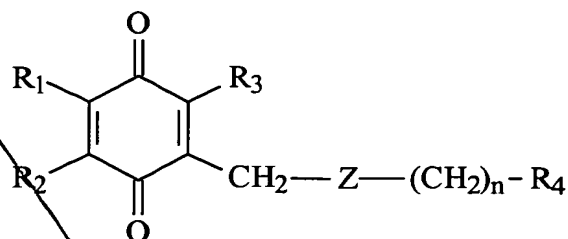
or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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Please add the following new claims 42-43:

--42. A method for preventing diseases caused by the activation of NF- $\kappa$ B comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative represented by the following general formula (1):

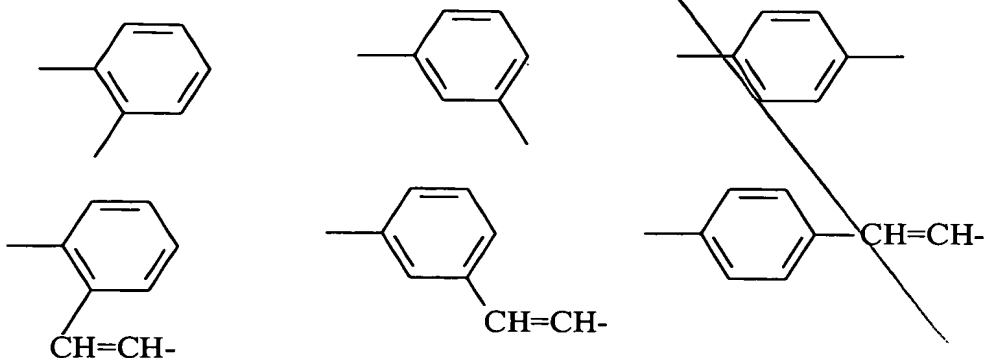


wherein

$\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$ , and  $\text{R}_3$  are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

$\text{R}_4$  is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is

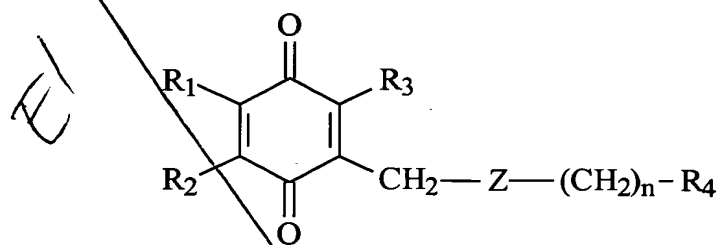


D

and, n is an integer from 0 to 6,

or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

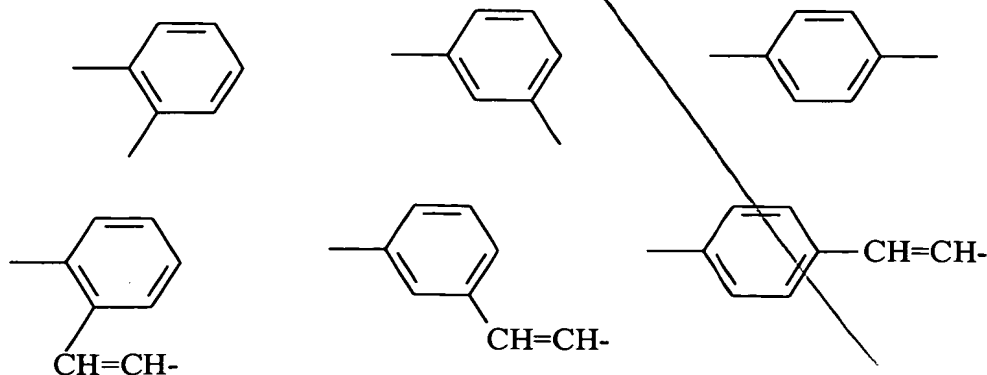
43. A method for preventing diseases caused by the excessive production of TNF- $\alpha$  comprising administering to a patient a benzoquinone derivative represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbons, or an alkoxy group having 1 to 5 carbons;

R<sub>4</sub> is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxymethyl group, an alkyl group, or a carboxyl group which is optionally esterified or amidated;

Z is



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and, n is an integer from 0 to 6,  $\frac{1}{2}$

or its hydroquinone form, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.--

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